

Clarence Waldo Taylor, Jr.

By Ora and Leigh Anne

Clarence Taylor, Jr. was born on August 10, 1926 in Elizabethton, TN. He was the only son of Rev. Clarence W. Taylor, Sr. and Gertrude Snodgrass.

Rev. Taylor was an ordained elder in the Holden Methodist Church. As a result, Clarence grew up all over eastern Tennessee and southwest Virginia as his father moved from one appointment to another. (The Methodist Church usually rotates its ministers from church to church every two or three years.)

Clarence attended Emory and Henry College in Emory, VA and the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond. He also served two years in the US Navy. It was while he was attending school in Richmond that he met and married Ora Lee Flanagan, a nurse, in 1953. She taught nursing at St. Elizabeth's Hospital near The Medical University where she had gotten her B.S. degree in nursing, until he completed medical school and moved to UNC at Chapel Hill, NC for his internship. She worked at the UNC hospital until their first child, Mike, was born. The following year they moved to Shawsville, VA where Clarence, a family physician, practiced medicine at Alleghany Clinic and Meadowbrook Nursing Home.

As mentioned in Ora's biography, Clarence retired in 1995 and since that time they have traveled to all the places we dreamed about when there was no time to go. They both enjoy having children and grandchildren close by. He gardens, mows, does stained glass, and when he runs out of something to do, there are roses to work with. There is no time to be bored as they are both involved in community activities. Clarence's work as a family doctor and the services he has provided in Shawsville are in keeping with his dream of living in a small community and making a difference for its folks.